



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were unchanged in the West, irregular, but mostly unchanged elsewhere. Trade sentiment was generally steady. Seasonal demand covered the full range, but was mostly moderate at best. Supplies were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, breast items were becoming more available, thighs were balanced to tight, and the remaining items were at least adequate. In production areas, live supplies were mostly moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable.

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 4/17-04/22/00 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A (Includes branded product)			COMPOSITE	
	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	55.00-56.00	55.32	17	57.35	34
Chicago	42.00-46.00	46.57	47	49.59	81
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—	—	54.88	28
Cleveland	TFEWR	—	—	57.43	15
Denver	61.50	61.43	17	60.32	40
Detroit	43.00-44.00	45.56	18	51.62	45
Los Angeles	62.00	61.06	66	60.69	121
New York	53.00-56.00	53.82	34	57.51	76
Philadelphia	50.00-55.00	50.43	14	51.20	32
Pittsburgh	49.00-56.00	50.47	17	54.26	73
St. Louis	46.00-46.25	45.23	23	49.59	46
San Francisco	62.50	62.07	30	65.30	53

Composite 12 City Weighted Average

Loads	04/17/00	Change/Last Wk	04/10/00	04/19/99
644		56.13	0.92	55.21 55.53

WOG BROILERS (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delvd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	Majority	Wtd Avg	Loads
East	49.00-57.00	55.94	43
Central	48.00-53.00	52.17	54
West	51.00-66.75	59.27	55

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	56.00-58.00	57.04	83
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GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 57.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

LOADS	RANGE	MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
1,098	42.00-59.00	56.22

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice pack parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG CENTS PER POUND	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	139.00	3,943
BREASTS - WHOLE	76.00	1,935
THIGH MEAT - B/S	98.50	578
LEG QUARTERS	19.00	8,412
WINGS	54.00	2,852

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS
SERVICE.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was seasonally light to fair. Offerings varied by size and volume but were generally more than sufficient for trade needs. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair. The market tone was generally steady. In the parts market, bone-in breast were readily available. All other items were at least adequate.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was generally steady. Movement was light to fair with limited trading which is typical pre-holiday demand before Easter. Supplies were usually sufficient to satisfy present needs. In the parts complex, availability was at least adequate to handle the light to moderate buying interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices were unchanged from last Monday's reported levels. Trading for this week's deliveries were at unchanged prices on regular commitments and unchanged to higher on WOGs. Offerings generally adequate. Buying activity was only fair. Retail demand was fair to fairly good, best for parts. Retail demand moderate overall, best for parts. Dealers reported moderate weekend carryovers. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG average was up .57 to 52.20 with the volume reported down 8 percent from last Monday.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices for this week's deliveries were TFEWR into Ohio, unchanged to higher elsewhere from last Monday's final. Whole fryer trade sentiment steady. Offerings were light overall, but satisfied limited trade needs. Demand into all channels was moderate to good, except into St. Louis and Detroit where movement was noted as light to fair at best. Floor stocks were adequate to fully adequate, weights desirable. Parts trading was irregular, best for leg quarters and bone-in breasts. Supplies generally balanced with thighs tight. Trade sentiment steady to firm on dark meat items and bone-in breasts, balance steady to barely steady.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER MARKET Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally light and unaggressive. Offerings were irregularly available and fully sufficient for the current buying interest, which has shifted to other items more typical of the holiday period. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were mixed and irregular in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were light to moderate as several plants curtailed operations in line with seasonally reduced needs. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. Bone-in breast were readily available. Other items were at least adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	53-68
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	59.45
NO. OF BOXES	9,134

*6 of 8 plants reporting

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity had slowed to a crawl over the weekend and most dealers were cautious in making purchases during this holiday week. Offerings were more than adequate for current trade needs. Bone-in breasts continued to become more available and discounting was noted. Movement into retail and distributive channels was light as seasonal features became the center of attention this week in ads. The market tone was barely steady to weak.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	135-140	138.41	453,440
TENDERLOINS	125-130	133.68	106,640
BREAST - WITH RIBS	68-69	77.44	191,360
BREAST - LINE RUN	68	67.51	108,120
LEGS	29-30	31.47	190,200
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	20.87	279,616
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.53	103,150
THIGHS	28-29	32.84	71,640
B/S THIGHS	86-87	92.05	36,090
WINGS (WHOLE)	48-49	57.16	211,120
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.80	84,445
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.15	48,040
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.67	71,400

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED OR CO2 PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	1,115	120.00-159.00	120-125	127.33
TENDERLOINS	110	140.00-202.00	-	171.03
BREAST - WITH RIBS		NO TRADING	REPORTED	
FRONT HALVES	280	58.00-64.00	58	58.29
LEGS		NO TRADING	REPORTED	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	251	16.00-17.00	16	16.04
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	2,853	16.00-18.00	17-18	17.09
WINGS (WHOLE)	200	42.00-49.00	42-45	45.20
DRUMSTICKS		NO TRADING	REPORTED	
THIGHS	842	33.00-38.00	33	33.01

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	04/17	04/13	04/13	04/10	04/06
ALA	3,954	3,915	5.08	3,879	5.04
ARK	5,227	5,074	4.78	5,165	4.80
DELMARVA	2,098	2,380	5.13	2,348	5.07
KY-LA-TN	2,035	2,025	4.35	1,857	4.31
MISS	2,761	2,769	5.15	2,738	4.84
NC	2,522	2,346	5.80	2,389	5.76
TEXAS	2,293	2,273	4.87	2,265	4.78
TOTAL	20,890	20,782	5.01	20,641	4.95
MON	20,890(A)			20,641(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 17-Apr 2000 is estimated to be 31,254,000 up 0.90 percent from a week ago and up 5.92 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,974,000, last year 29,507,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED OR CO2 PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	559	115.00-196.00	130-135	133.77
TENDERLOINS	145	110.00-200.00	-	176.76
BREAST - LINE RUN	155	68.00-73.00	68-69	71.71
FRONT HALVES	70	59.00-64.00	-	61.50
LEGS	48	27.00-34.00	27-29	28.17
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	381	16.00-18.00	16-17	16.32
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,313	17.00-20.00	18-20	18.86
WINGS (WHOLE)	60	52.00-55.00	-	53.00
WINGS (CUT)	453	61.00-73.00	63-65	63.46
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
B/S THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APRIL 17, 2000 — F.O.B. DOCK.

	TODAY'S RANGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
	37.50 - 41.00	38.91
		40.24

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

MIDWEST REGION PARTS PRICES PER LB., ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF 04/17-04/21/00

	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	130.00 - 165.00	130.00 - 135.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	68.00 - 82.00	68.00 - 73.00
LEGS	29.00 - 40.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	15.00 - 21.00	16.00 - 18.00
DRUMSTICKS	26.00 - 40.00	-
THIGHS	30.00 - 49.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	46.00 - 58.00	48.00 - 50.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	15.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	25.00 - 38.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35.00 - 48.00	-

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	75-89
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	78-95
FROZEN HENS 5# & UP	84-93
FROZEN DUCKS	135
FROZEN SQUABS	589

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

FRESH FRYERS	76-80
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	79
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	309

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	104-108
	ICE PACK	92-96
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-107
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	95
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-166

EASTERN REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 14-APR-00

CHICKEN PRICES

-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
FAT	FOB DELIVERED	FOB DELIVERED	
CONTENT	DOCK	DOCK	
15% OR LESS			
RANGE	15.50-16.00	- 15.00-16.00	-
WTD AVERAGE	15.80	15.88	

520,000 pounds, this includes 80,000 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS			
RANGE	13.75-15.00	15.00	- 15.00
WTD AVERAGE	14.68	15.00	15.00

600,000 pounds, this includes 200,000 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%			
RANGE	13.00-14.25	15.00	11.25-13.00 12.00-14.00
WTD AVERAGE	13.72	15.00	11.50 13.57

1,620,000 pounds, this includes 700,000 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE			
RANGE	-	-	- 12.75
WTD AVERAGE			12.75

240,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Trading was generally unchanged. Demand was light to moderate for at least adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were light to fair. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was no better than steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 17-APR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.75-17 CENTS/LB	10-12	11.10

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

CENTRAL REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 14-APR-00

CHICKEN PRICES

-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
FAT	FOB DELIVERED	FOB DELIVERED	
CONTENT	DOCK	DOCK	
15% OR LESS			
RANGE	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE			

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS			
RANGE	-	20.00	12.00-15.00 14.50-15.00
WTD AVERAGE		20.00	12.90 14.83

367,200 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%			
RANGE	10.00-11.00	12.00-16.50	9.00-12.50 13.00-13.50
WTD AVERAGE	10.50	13.75	10.69 13.22

2,713,600 pounds, this includes 378,400 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE			
RANGE	-	-	- 12.75
WTD AVERAGE			12.75

285,600 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Majority trading was unchanged to slightly lower when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings. Processing schedules were normal to heavy. Undertone was about steady to steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER
THE WEEK OF 17-APR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-16	8.25-10.75	10.68
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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